
STATE OF MONTANA

BRIAN SCHWEITZER, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK
PO BOX 202001
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-2001



DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK (406) 444-7323
ANIMAL HEALTH DIVISION (406) 444-2043
BRANDS ENFORCEMENT DIVISION (406) 444-2045
FAX (406) 444-1929

MEMORANDUM

To: Whom it May Concern

From: Dr. Marty Zalusk, Administrator & State Veterinarian

Subject: Modified Identification Requirements for Cattle Imported into Montana

Date: February 12, 2010

1. Animals permitted for entry into Montana that are quarantined for additional testing or health requirements must have official individual animal identification with those numbers listed on the certificate of veterinary inspection (CVI), except:
 - a. Registered ownership brands may be used in place of official individual identification on the CVI for import of unvaccinated (but vaccine eligible) female calves to be quarantined and brucellosis vaccinated or spayed by a Montana veterinarian. These female calves must be branded and accompanied by an official brand inspection document. If they are not branded, official individual ID must be applied.
2. Non-branded (slick) steers and spayed heifer calves (including dairy breeds) and branded cattle that require no testing or quarantine may be identified using the brand inspection information.
3. Sporting bovines and Mexican origin steers must be tested and therefore identified with official individual identification.

The protocol for using brand inspection information to identify branded cattle (and "slick" steers and spayed heifers) on a CVI is to cite the brand inspection number issued at the state of origin on the face of the certificate and attach a copy of the brand inspection document to it (as per Title 9 Part 78.1(c) of the USDA Code of Federal Regulations).

Official individual identification includes:

- USDA Silver ID Tags
- USDA orange brucellosis vaccination tags
- Other USDA approved tags such as RFID tags
- Individual animal registered Breed association tattoos
- Individual animal registered Breed association brands
- State Issued Trich Test Tags for tested bulls less than 24 months old